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Bicyclists on hot seats downtown

Hundreds of warnings since May for breaking traffic laws will soon become real fines, city says Almost 600 pulled over for driving wrong way, on sidewalks and running lights Motorists also part of 'Give Respect, Get Respect' initiative {page 02}

NASA VIA GETTY IMAGES

Space. Drexel grad

▶ Archbishop Ryan High School grad Chris Ferguson, seen here Sunday at the space station, is commander of NASA's last shuttle mission.

Philadelphia's very own "rocketman" is still floating about 200 miles above Earth as Atlantis last night began to undock from the International Space Station. He will pilot the last shuttle mission back to Kennedy Space Center early Thursday. Metro caught up with people who know Chris Ferguson and ironically describe him as "down to earth" when he dwells among us earthlings. {page 03}

News

Society Hill tormented by choker

Seven women mugged by very aggressive attacker in three weeks Some victims choked unconscious {page 02}

Ready for your romance read?

It's just not summer without a Danielle Steel book at the beach {page 10}

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Society Hill choker mugging women

Society Hill resident Lindsay Allen found herself looking down alleys and taking extra precautions yesterday as police investigate a series of violent robberies in the area.

"The biggest thing is if I don't have to, I don't carry my purse," said Allen, 25, who noted that she has Mace but does not usually carry it with her.

Police say they believe five of the attacks are connected. The first assault happened on June 25 on South Fourth Street between Delancey and Cypress. In each attack, the suspect has approached the victim from behind, grabbed her and taken her belongings. In three attacks, victims were choked until losing consciousness.

The attacks have happened at various times of the day, and the victims range in age from 25 to 73.

▶ Police video footage

No sexual assaults have been reported, but authorities are also cautioning women to be on the lookout.

"Beware of your surroundings, try not to travel alone," said Capt. Brian Korn of the Sixth District.

SOLOMON D. LEACH

Cops have eyes on rules of the road

- Hundreds of warnings issued for bicyclists, motorists since May
- Bicyclists warned most, but city official insists everyone on radar

Appropriately named bicycle courier Matt Ryder knows the rules of the road, though he hasn't necessarily followed them by the letter of the law every single day.

Ryder, 23, is one of 590 bicyclists given warnings by police since May through a City Hall initiative called "Give Respect, Get Respect" officials hope will change attitudes by Center City commuters on two wheels, four wheels and two feet.

"They should crack down on jaywalkers, too, and cabs. They should use equal discretion with all vehicles, not single out bikes because it's trendy or popular," said Ryder, who has been stopped several times for violations but has always received a warning. "I was pulled over in the first wave of crackdowns when DiCicco and Kenney had that reactionary bill. That didn't last for too long and I don't expect this will, either."

▶ Ryder

PHOTOS: RIKARD LARMA/METRO

▶ As many as a dozen officers patrol Center City daily as part of "Give Respect, Get Respect."

Deputy Mayor for Transportation Rina Cutler said all commuters on downtown streets are being warned or ticketed if they don't follow traffic laws, but the figures from May through last week either support Ryder's notion that bicyclists are the main target or show bike riders follow traffic laws the least.

Cutler insisted every mode of transportation is targeted by the initiative.

"It's our way of getting folks to be aware they're not the only users of the roadway," she said. "We made a conscious effort to really try to do some pubic education in advance of trying to do some serious enforcement."

By the numbers

According to Rina Cutler, Deputy Mayor for Transportation:

116

Motorists have received 116 warnings for traffic violations

37

Motorists also have received 37 moving violations.

▶ Cutler

590

Bicyclists have received 590 warnings, three moving violations and seven citations for running red lights, riding on the sidewalk and riding in the wrong direction.

ALEXANDRA WIGGLESWORTH

▶ Marrero

Two cops arrested during weekend

PHILADELPHIA. Two city police officers have been assigned to desk duty after being arrested in separate off-duty incidents over the weekend.

Officer Lee Marrero, 29 was arrested Saturday in South Philadelphia for DUI. Officer Eliezer Morales, 25, was arrested Saturday at Bally's Wild West Casino in Atlantic City, N.J., for an alleged fight. METRO/SDL

Nutter, radio team up

CITY HALL. Mayor Michael Nutter announced a new initiative yesterday with local radio stations aimed at reducing violence among city youth, engaging them in positive activities as well as a pledge to improve their city.

The campaign, called IPledge, involves Power 99 FM, 100.3 The Beat and 900AM WURD.

METRO/SDL

In the news

Let yourselves in!

Two Marlton, N.J., men were allegedly fooling around and photographing themselves with a Radnor police van on Lancaster Avenue over the weekend when they locked themselves in the vehicle, reports said. They have been charged with criminal mischief.

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ONLINE TODAY

WWW.METRO.US/MIXTAPE
WHAT HAS FOSTER THE PEOPLE 'PUMPED UP'?

WWW.METRO.US/ORANGE
SHERBET, SORBET AND WATER ICE

WWW.METRO.US/MEOW
KITTENS ACT OUT HARRY POTTER

Orbital shout-outs from Philly spaceman

City native and Drexel grad Chris Ferguson is commander of NASA's last shuttle mission Ferguson loves mentioning his hometown in space

When asked to describe Drexel alumnus and commander of NASA's final space shuttle mission Christopher Ferguson, the phrase most acquaintances chose was "down-to-earth" (no, really).

"He's really maintained his ties with the university," said associate teaching professor Don Haring, who coordinated a team of Drexel design students to create a mission badge for the trip after Ferguson reached out to the school. "He grew up in Philadelphia, and he sort of implied that he may be coming back — which would be really great."

COURTESY OF DREXEL UNIVERSITY

▶ Ferguson

"He's a cool guy," said recent Drexel graduate Jennifer Choy, whose design was one of those chosen. "I've been watching the videos they put up on NASA and in all the interviews he gives shout-outs to Drexel and his high school, Archbishop Ryan. You can tell he has a lot of pride for the Philly area."

"It is incredible to be 220 miles over the Earth. ... You look down and realize you really can't see country boundaries," Ferguson said in a recent video from space.

The 49-year-old astronaut is currently aboard the Atlantis shuttle on its final mission before NASA ends the country's space program.

"You do realize how fragile [Earth] is as a result of the thin little atmosphere that we look at," said Ferguson. "And how kindly we need to treat it — or perhaps it won't be treating us very kindly for generations to come."

ALEXANDRA WIGGLESWORTH

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Atlantis is expected to land at Kennedy Space Center at 5:57 a.m. Thursday. The mission was extended from 12 to 13 days so the astronauts could bring home additional materials from the space station.

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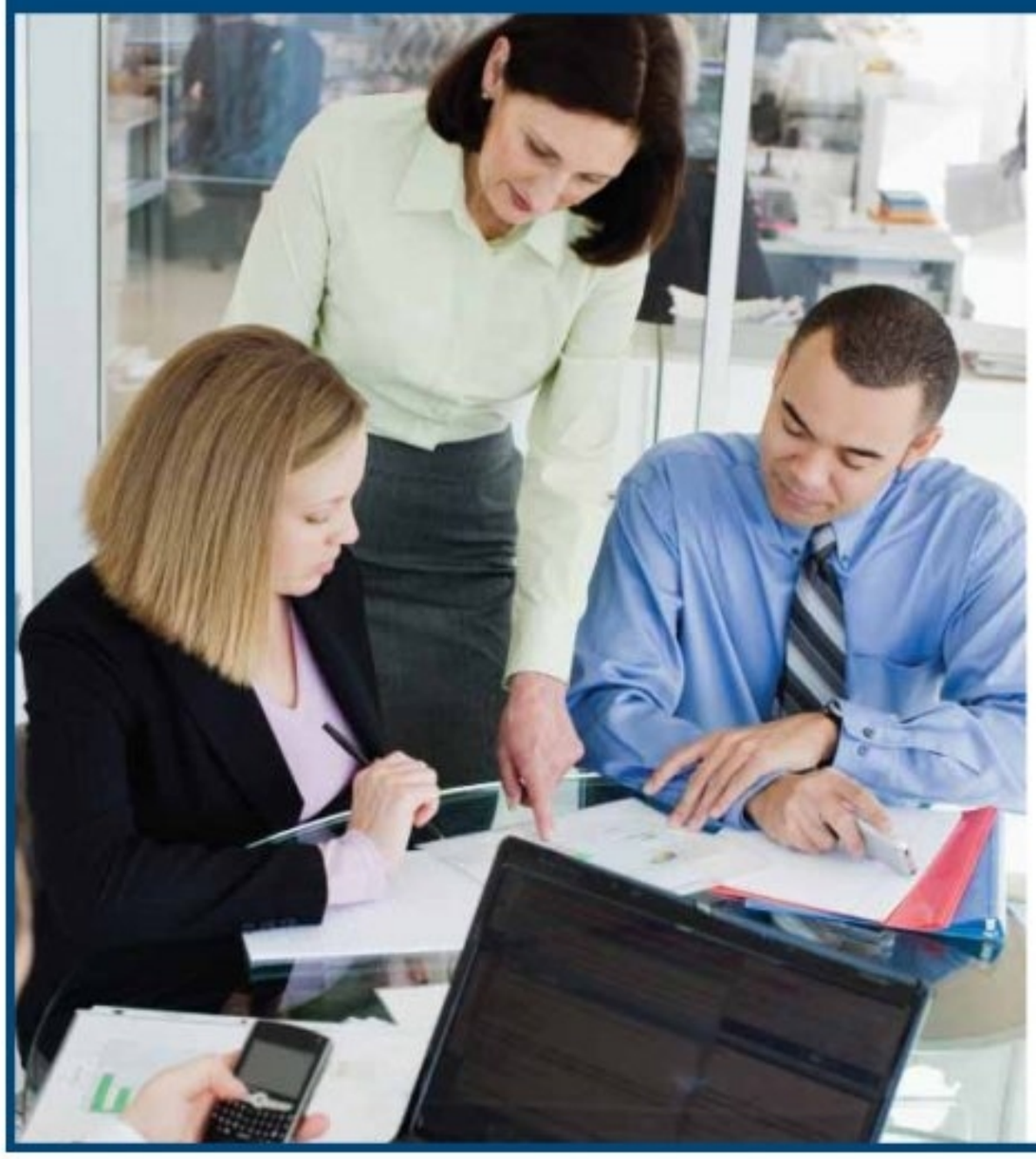

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RICARD LARMA/METRO

Culture. 'How Philly Moves'

▶ Mesoamerican cultural group Fuego Nuevo performed a ritual honoring the four elements yesterday.

Dancing like ancestors

A documentary about Mesoamerican culture directed by Chris Ambolino was shot downtown yesterday. One dancer, Cesar Viveros, featured in the Mural Arts Program's How Philly Moves campaign, said: "You don't have to live on a reservation to be who you are." "We don't want to learn new values, but promote the ones we inherited." METRO/AW

Reports: Rigali ready to resign

RICARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Rigali took charge of the Archdiocese in 2003.

Embattled head of Philadelphia Archdiocese could step down today
Leadership first jeopardized when sex-abuse scandal erupted this year

Since the release of Philadelphia's report on sexual abuse by clergy five months ago, Cardinal Justin Rigali has been under fire for failing to stop the abuses over the long period they allegedly took place.

New reports, first by the National Catholic Reporter late last week than locally yesterday, including a front page story by the Daily News, claim that Pope Benedict XVI is going to accept Rigali's resignation and replace him with a new leader of the Philadelphia Archdiocese as soon as today. No reports have been confirmed.

Canon law asks Cardinals to give a letter of resignation at age 75; the pope can choose to refuse it. Rigali, 76, has been head of the archdiocese for the last eight years.

Several candidates have been named by the National Catholic Reporter and other websites as possibly Archbishop Charles Chaput of Denver, Colo., Bishop William Lori of Bridgeport, Conn., and Archbishop Wilton Gregory of Atlanta.

The Vatican has made no official announcement and spokespeople for the Archdiocese did not return calls for comment yesterday.

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GETTY IMAGES

▶ Anthony's in hiding.

Casey Anthony kept safe

ORLANDO, FLA. An attorney for Casey Anthony would not confirm yesterday whether his client boarded a plane after her swift weekend exit from jail but said "elaborate plans" were required to keep her safe.

Anthony's whereabouts have been a closely guarded secret since her release early Sunday after nearly three years in custody on charges connected to the 2008 death of her 2-year-old daughter, Caylee.

A Florida jury acquitted Anthony, 25, on July 5 of killing Caylee — but convicted her of lying to detectives during the search for the then-missing child. Caylee's remains were found in December 2008 in woods near the Anthony family home. **REUTERS**

Pakistan, India in focus

NEW DELHI. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton hopes to cement ties with emerging global

power India during talks in New Delhi today — while also heading off new frictions with fragile U.S. ally, Pakistan.

Clinton's two-day trip to India, her second as secretary of state, follows President Barack Obama's visit last November and underscores Washington's growing bonds with the world's second-most populous country and its $1.6 trillion economy. **REUTERS**

9/11 families want to meet with FBI

Victims' relatives ask for information on ongoing investigation Lead lawyer says News Corp. could be in trouble if even an attempt was made

Relatives of victims of the Sept. 11 attacks have asked to meet the FBI and the U.S. Justice Department to discuss the agencies' preliminary inquiry into reports that News Corp. reporters may have tried to hack the phones of 9/11 victims.

U.S. authorities have acknowledged they are looking into a report by Britain's Daily Mirror newspaper that reporters with the rival News of the World offered to pay a New York police officer for private phone records of some 9/11 victims. The Mirror's report has yet to be independently verified but has fueled U.S. emotions over the wider phone hacking scandal.

New York attorney Normal Siegel sent letters yesterday requesting meetings with FBI Director Robert Mueller, U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder and U.S. Rep. John Conyers.

"I tried in the letter not to accuse anyone ... because you don't want a media frenzy accusing someone if the facts aren't there. We want to find out what the truth is." SIEGEL

The Daily Mirror report said News of the World journalists had wanted the phone numbers of the dead as well as details of the calls they had made and received in the days leading to the attacks. **REUTERS**

Liability law

The estates of those killed on Sept. 11 or survivors would have grounds to sue the newspaper for damages if phones were illegally hacked, with potentially greater punitive damages possible if the hacking was found to be intentional and deliberate, Siegel said.

Even if an unsuccessful attempt was made to illegally access voice mails the paper could be liable, he said.

Siegel has represented relatives of Sept. 11 victims in a number of cases, including a successful attempt to force New York City to release audio tapes of phone calls to emergency responders during the disaster.

NASA VIA GETTY IMAGES

NASA. End of an era

▶ NASA astronaut Sandy Magnus, mission specialist for space shuttle Atlantis STS-135, takes in the view before launching away from the International Space Station.

One last look for the space shuttle

The crew of NASA's final space shuttle mission closed the hatch to the International Space Station for the final time yesterday in preparation for the shuttle's last flight back to Earth. Before floating through the shuttle's air lock for the final time, Atlantis' four crewmembers left behind two mementos to commemorate the shuttle program's 30-year history: a space shuttle model and an American flag that flew aboard Columbia on the first U.S. shuttle mission in 1981. REUTERS

On US debt: Obama has a backup plan

WASHINGTON. President Barack Obama would like to see a comprehensive deficit-reduction package, but is exploring a possible fallback plan with congressional leaders to avert a debt default by Aug. 2, the White House said yesterday.

White House spokesman Jay Carney said that while Obama would prefer the biggest possible package, he is leaving room open for a safety valve to get an increase in the debt ceiling by Aug. 2, when the federal government will run out of money to pay its bills.

"We must pursue a fallback or last-ditch option," Carney said.

He also said there must be a mechanism in place to ensure the United States does not default on its debt obligations.

Obama, who set a Friday deadline for lawmakers to reach a deal on the debt ceiling, held a secret White House meeting with Republican congressional leaders on Sunday — but there were no breakthroughs, a Republican congressional aide said. **REUTERS**

$1.6K

As debt talks go nowhere, world stocks dipped and gold prices hit record highs, above $1,600 an ounce.

No taxes? No deal

WASHINGTON. The White House has criticized the "cut, cap and balance" measure from Republicans, which calls for any increase in the debt ceiling to include spending cuts and caps along with a balanced budget amendment. The White House said Obama would veto the measure if it passes Congress. **REUTERS**

The insect's outdoor haven

HABITAT. These insects are commonly found around open bodies of fresh water, like ponds, and big asphalt parking lots that can resemble open water. Some species can be found in large fields away from lakes and rivers while searching for prey or migrating. MWN

Quoted

"To capture this shot, I had to arrive on location very early while the insects waited for the sun to rise. Sometimes you get lucky and find one that is happy to sit still for ages."

TONY FLASHMAN, PHOTOGRAPHER

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TONY FLASHMAN/SOLENT NEWS/REX FEATURES

For your eyes only

▶ A damselfly hides behind a single blade of grass at a meadow near Fordwich Lakes, Canterbury.

It's all about their eyes

INSECT. With elongated abdomens and translucent wings, these insects are characteristically similar to dragonflies. However, damselflies are usually smaller and weaker fliers in comparison. In addition, damselflies have distinctively parted eyes, appearing on each side of the head. MWN

Damselfly facts

- **Remained unchanged** Damselflies and dragonflies look the same as they did in the Jurassic era – about 135 million years ago.
- **"Raptors" of insect world** They begin to hunt in bodies of water as larvae, and they sometimes take on prey as large as sticklebacks (a type of fish).

5K Species of Odonata, encompassing both damselflies and dragonflies, worldwide

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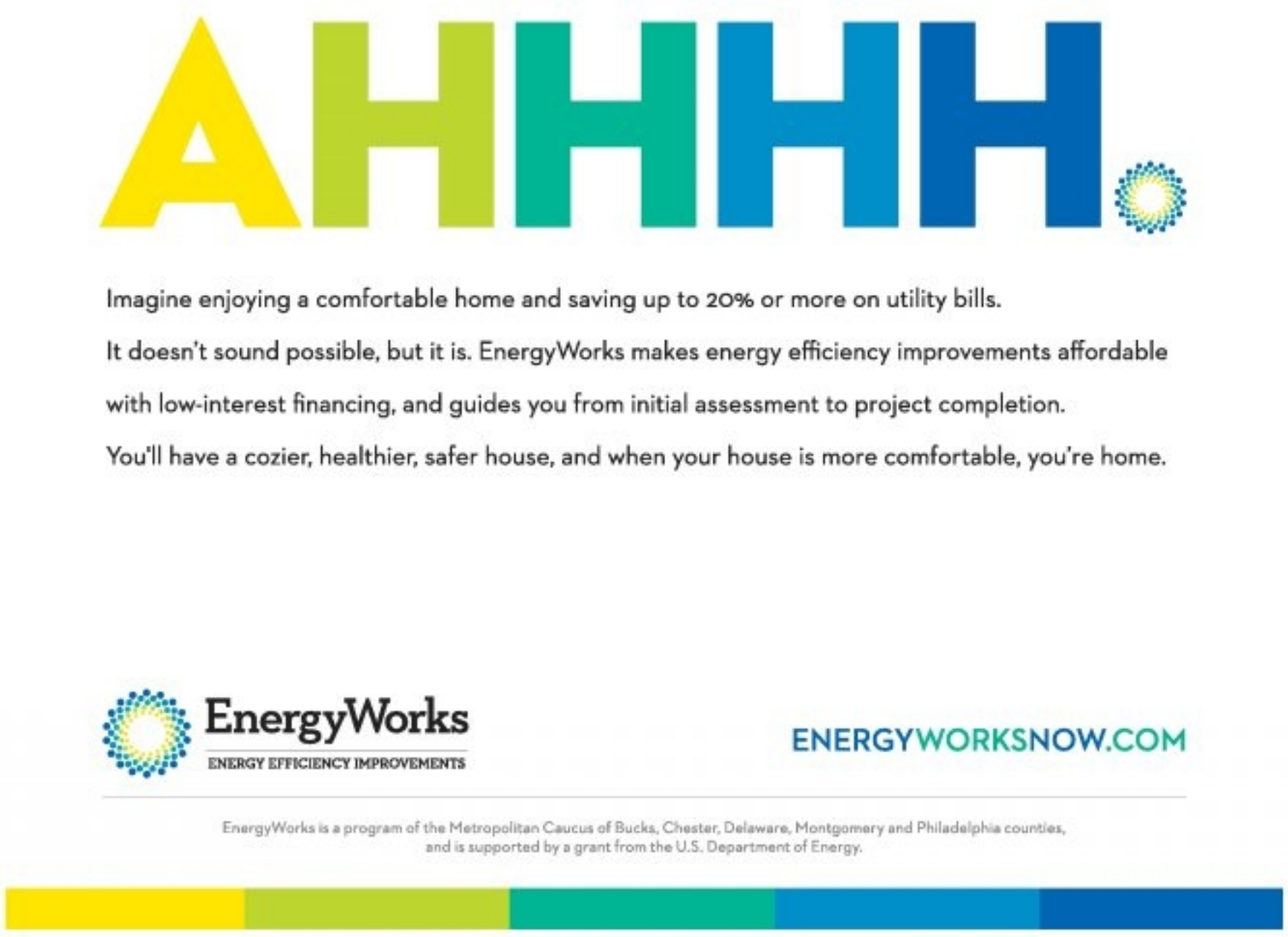
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THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

Lopez 'devastated,' shoots down cheating rumors

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DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

The fallout continues from Friday's bombshell (and sneaky before-the-weekend) announcement that **Jennifer Lopez** and **Marc Anthony** are getting a divorce. Lopez "tried everything she could to make it work," one (planted) source close to the star told Us Weekly. "They went to marriage counseling. She was patient and loving and did everything he wanted her to. She exhausted all the possibilities."

"They had a very up-and-down marriage," adds a second source/"friend" of the couple. "They would get into heated, horrible fights. Then, they would also go through times where they were extremely loving and romantic. ... It was a roller coaster with them from the beginning."

Is Levy, left, helping Lopez get over Marc Anthony? I really hope so.

PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

As J-Lo rebuilds and rebrands her life as a newly single mom, "she is devastated," the first source says. "Absolutely beside herself. This is someone she dedicated a long time to, and that she truly loved."

However, there is buzz around the Internet that telenovela star **William Levy** (aka the Cuban Brad Pitt with a Jewish name) who stars in Lopez's new music video, "I'm Into You," really is into the singer — but his reps are fighting down rumors that the two are an item. "The only relationship there was or is, is a professional relationship," says his rep to TMZ.com. "That's all there's ever been."

My theory? Lopez woke up one morning, looked in the mirror and realized, "Ay! Dios mio! I'm a total fox. What am I doing with this guy?" And then decided to go with someone more on her hotness wavelength.

The show goes on

Contracts must be honored! Despite their recently announced separation, **Jennifer Lopez** and **Marc Anthony** are reportedly still doing a reality show together, according to Us Weekly. "'Q'Viva,' the hotly anticipated 2012 celebration of Latin music, artistry and dance, is set to film this autumn in South America with Jennifer Lopez and Marc Anthony as previously announced," a rep for the show's production company tells Us Weekly. "Both Jennifer and Mark are committed to the 'Q'Viva' project and will work on it as planned. The show goes on."

The feed ...

Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or less.

Nicole Richie is looking to relax, Russell Crowe is making progress on his diet, Sarah Silverman is revealing her secrets and Ivanka Trump tells the world the new name of her baby girl.

@nicolerichie
Ladies, we need to find some big mouth guy to spread a rumor that sleeping all day is really sexy

@russellcrowe
220 lbs this morning, started at 236.4 lbs

@SarahKSilverman
Sometimes when I'm really lonely I talk to myself but I call myself "you guys"

@IvankaTrump
Jared and I are having so much fun playing with our daughter! Arabella Rose is beyond adorable. She's truly a blessing.

Silverman

Talking points

New princess tackles queen

Having successfully wooed Hollywood during her royal visit, **Princess Catherine** has another high-stakes trip on her schedule: spending time with **Queen Elizabeth** in Scotland at the end of August, according to the Telegraph. "This is quite an important visit for Kate because, believe it or not, the queen does not really know her very well at all," a source says. "Kate has never had an invitation before to stay at Balmoral, but she is family now and the queen wants to get to know her. The queen needs to present Kate to Scotland. The time has come."

Sheen's return to television

Charlie Sheen has confirmed that he's going to star in a new sitcom based on the movie "Anger Management." A statement was released yesterday describing the show — "a mild-mannered, non-confrontational man is ordered to attend group anger-management sessions led by a therapist who could probably use some anger management himself." In the statement, Sheen explains, "I chose 'Anger Management' because, while it might be a big stretch for me to play a guy with serious anger management issues, I think it is a great concept." The show has not been picked up by a network.

Princess Catherine

Queen Elizabeth

Justin Bieber: Wedding crasher

Justin Bieber and girlfriend **Selena Gomez** can reportedly add wedding crashing to their list of favorite activities, as the pair dropped in on a fancy Malibu wedding over the weekend, according to TMZ. Sources say Bieber and Gomez were strolling on the beach when they heard his song "One Less Lonely Girl" playing at a reception, so they decided to drop in. "We just crashed it. We heard a party so we decided to just come. So let's party," Bieber told the guests.

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Musicians (and a few sheep) on duty

1: Dolly Parton during her "Better Day" world tour opener at the Thompson-Boling Arena on Sunday in Knoxville, Tenn.
2: You'd know that pompadour anywhere: Prince performs during his "Welcome 2 Europe" tour at the Umbria Jazz Festival Grounds on Friday night in Perugia, Italy.
3: Paul McCartney at Yankee Stadium on Saturday in New York City.
4: Robin Pecknold of Fleet Foxes during his set at the 2011 Pitchfork Music Festival in Union Park on Sunday in Chicago.
5: Toots and the Maytals perform during the 2011 Green River Festival at Greenfield Community College on Saturday in Greenfield, Mass.
6: A few sheep got into the rock 'n' roll spirit at the Latitude Festival 2011 at Henham Park Estate on Saturday in Southwold, U.K.
7: Nice mic! Snoop Dog headlined the main stage during the second day of Lovebox festival at Victoria Park on Saturday in London.

1: RICK DIAMOND/GETTY IMAGES
2: JORDAN STRAUSS/WIREIMAGE FOR NPG RECORDS 2011
3: NEILSON BARNARD/GETTY IMAGES
4: ROGER KISBY/GETTY IMAGES
5: DOUGLAS MASON/GETTY IMAGES
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mybooks

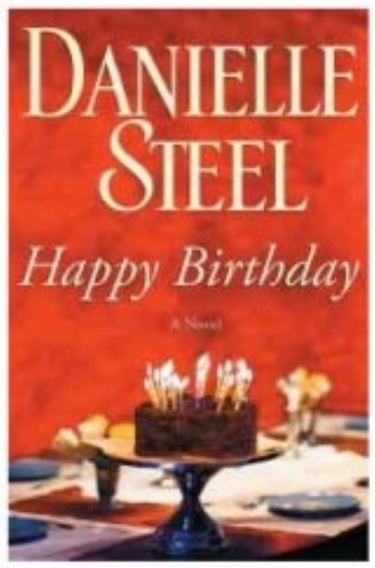
Q&A: Danielle Steel

What does one of the world's most popular authors read in her downtime?
I don't want to read overly serious or depressing works. Personally, I enjoy reading novels, and religious books to inspire me and give me a sense of peace. I want to read something that I enjoy, which I think is why people read my books as well. My characters are believable, and the situations we all live through, the challenges we face — but I try to address those issues in a hopeful way. As a result, people don't feel so alone when they read my books.

Steel-ing your summer

'People don't feel so alone when they read my books,' says the queen of romance What Danielle Steel thinks of her phenomenal success

What would summer be without a Danielle Steel book? Since 1981, her works have been a near permanent fixture on The New York Times hardcover and paperback best-seller lists, selling more than 800 million copies. Out today is this summer's tome, "Happy Birthday," which weaves the stories of three characters who must come to terms with aging. Now 63, Steel talks to Metro about what keeps her ticking.



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Forbes recently named you the world's second-most powerful female writer, after J.K. Rowling and ahead of Nobel Prize-winner Toni Morrison. Is it an honor, or are women-only lists an insult?
I am honored to be on any list, female or mixed-gender, that lists me as the second-most powerful female writer or the best anything. I'm grateful for the respect for my work, whether it is from women or men and women. It would seem foolish to me to be "insulted" by praise. And coming "ahead" of a Nobel Prize winner is pretty impressive.

One of "Happy Birthday"'s main characters, April, is a successful businesswoman, but is about to turn 30 and has neither a husband nor children. Is this such a terrible thing for a woman of 30?
I don't think it's terrible at all to have no husband or children at 30 or any other age. Today, people make choices based on what they want. Women who don't want children don't have them, instead of feeling obliged to as they did in the past. Life today is about having far more choices than we ever did before.

Your books have sold upward of 800 million copies, but literary types look down at authors like you. What's your reaction?
I'm not offended by "literary types" looking down their nose at commercially successful, "popular" authors. The literary world looked down at Charles Dickens. I write what people care about and experience, that seems to work for me, and for my readers, 800 million of them.

ELISABETH BRAW
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

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Burlington Volkswagen Hosts A 3 Day Short Sale To Reduce Summer Inventory

If you've been waiting to save on a quality pre-owned car, truck or sports utility vehicle, your wait is over! Burlington Volkswagen is hosting its 3 Day Showstopper Savings Event from Monday, July 18th through Wednesday, 20th! The summer savings in this automotive short sale are sizzling so you've got to get to Burlington Volkswagen!

With the incredible success Burlington Volkswagen has recently experienced with new car sales, the dealership has an over-abundance of pre-owned vehicles. For **3 DAYS ONLY**, Burlington Volkswagen has the new and pre-owned vehicles for you! **YOU NEED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THESE SAVINGS...BEFORE THEY'RE GONE!**

From July 18th through 20th only, Burlington Volkswagen is hosting its 3 Day Showstopper Savings Event, an automotive short sale! Burlington Volkswagen **MUST LIQUIDATE OVER 50% OF ITS PRE-OWNED INVENTORY IMMEDIATELY.**

General Manager, David Lewis, said, "This has created a tremendous opportunity for anyone in the market for a quality pre-owned car, truck, minivan, or SUV at below market prices. We put every pre-owned vehicle through the same rigorous and thorough recondition process as our certified VW's." Monthly finance and lease payments will be at rock bottom prices, and Burlington Volkswagen will pay $1000s over book value for trade-ins. Mr. Lewis said that he and his team "will do whatever it takes to sell these vehicles."

These offers are valid for three days only – Monday, July 18th, Tuesday, July 19th and Wednesday July 20th. **ONCE THESE DAYS ARE OVER, REGULAR PRICING WILL RESUME!**

During the 3 Day Showstopper Savings Event, Burlington Volkswagen's doors will open at 9AM on the 18th, 19th, and 20th. This sale ends when Burlington Volkswagen has sold over 50% of its pre-owned inventory, so arrive early to make sure you can take advantage of these offers.

Burlington Volkswagen will have vehicle evaluation specialists on hand to inspect all trade-ins. Customers wishing to trade in a vehicle are asked to bring their title or payment book for immediate delivery. Burlington Volkswagen **WILL EVEN PAY OFF YOUR TRADE-IN IN FULL, NO MATTER HOW MUCH YOU STILL OWE ON IT**, negative equity will carry forward.

Mr. Lewis has given the dealership's financing manager the resources necessary to get most

All offers to qualified buyers. Cannot be combined with any other offers. *Negative equity carries forward. Vehicle is subject to inspection. Less wear and tear. See dealer for complete details.

"Get $1,000s Over Book Value For Your Trade"* -David Lewis

customers' credit approved on the spot. This means that customers with "less than perfect" credit history can have their credit approved and drive a new or quality pre-owned vehicle home by lunchtime! Even if a customer's credit report shows a bankruptcy, divorce, tax lien, slow payment history, missed payment or repossession, or if the customer is a first-time buyer, Burlington Volkswagen can get them approved.

Burlington Volkswagen has been given authority to underwrite it's own loans! Burlington Volkswagen has an agreement with two lenders that allow it to authorize loan approvals on the spot at it's discretion! **DO NOT MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE BIG ON QUALITY PRE-OWNED AND NEW VEHICLES!** Burlington Volkswagen's 3 Day Showstopper Savings Event will take place July 18th through 20th! For more information, call 866-398-6685 or visit Burlington Volkswagen online at www.burlingtonvw.com.

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mystyle

The D&G S/S '11 show was full of lust-worthy ensembles in floral prints.

In full bloom

In summer, it's perfectly acceptable to indulge in your girly side and wear floral prints galore (we're especially loving the brave souls who layer on the blooms to create looks prettier than arrangements at Saipua). Not there yet? We've got fun, feminine separates to get you started.

TINA CHADHA
tina.chadha@metro.us

Shopping list

1. Zimmerman Posy ruffled, floral-print bikini, **$250, www.netaporter.com**
2. Kimchi Blue floral box purse **$20, www.urbanoutfitters.com**
3. Rebecca Taylor Shadow Daisy Tango dress, **$375, www.rebeccataylor.com**
4. Topshop pink floral trousers, **$60, www.topshop.com**
5. Free People floral printed romper, **$118, www.freepeople.com**
6. Aritzia Talula Drew tank, **$40, www.aritzia.com**

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Alternative learning at Temple

BERARD LARMA/METRO

▶ Get out from behind that computer and into some fun classes.

Metro looks at college studies that offer fun ways to expand your mind Education doesn't have to be just about learning specific trades or about future jobs

One in seven college grads in the Philadelphia region went to Temple University; but even they may not be aware of the wide variety of noncredit classes the school offers.

"We serve people of all ages, because learning never ends," says Rhonda Geyer, director of noncredit programs at Temple.

The great thing about noncredit classes is that there are no exams or grades. "It's a way to explore new interests without pressure," Geyer explains. "People can pursue their passions and learn new skills — plus meet new people who share their interests. It's a kind of social networking, in the old sense," she laughs.

Fun classes

Temple's noncredit food, wine and hospitality courses are very popular; so are the fitness classes. This fall, Temple will be bringing these two lifestyle areas together in three new classes on stress management and healthy eating.

Many who take one noncredit class end up taking more. Some take the same class, like yoga or Rumba, multiple times. Others retake classes that tackle new topics or skills every term, like language classes and book discussion groups. Still others enjoy the opportunity to sample a variety of interests, taking flower arrangement one term and drawing the next.

"We also offer noncredit versions of some of our certificate and degree programs," Geyer says, "especially on our Ambler campus. People take a noncredit horticultural or landscape design class for fun, then end up taking credit courses." This can be the route to a second career.

Most of Temple's noncredit classes are at the Ambler and Fort Washington campuses. ● JUDY WEIGHTMAN

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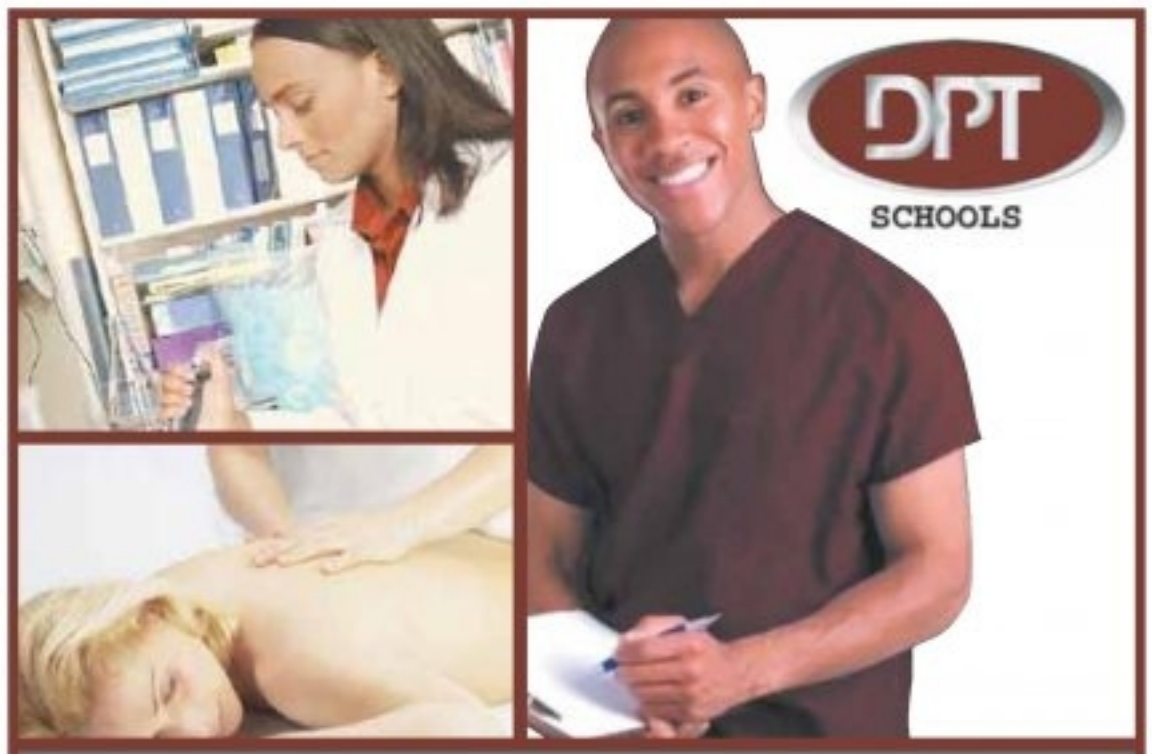
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school for fun

Crash courses in computer learning

Whether you're seeking new skills for career advancement or just a refresher, try computer training

Most people who want — or need — to pick up some new computer skills don't necessarily want — or need — to enroll for an IT degree. Luckily, local community colleges offer a huge variety of very affordable courses.

"We get two kinds of students," says Rita Atake, director of career and information technology programs at Montgomery County Community College (MC3). "Some are employed but need new, specific skills, because their employer is upgrading software or migrating to a new system. Others want to improve opportunities for advancement in their current jobs.

"We also get a lot of people who have been laid off and who want to get skills that will make them more employable."

MC3, like most community colleges, offers classes in both operating systems and specific programs, from Word to Photoshop to Flash.

In addition, you can take workshops like Social Media for Business, or Intro to Blogging, Wikis and Podcasting.

Though they don't receive credit, students who successfully complete the courses get certificates to show their employers.

JUDY WEIGHTMAN

Take lessons off campus

In addition to classes on campus, MC3 offers custom training for companies. "We can go to their site — days, evenings, weekends — and provide the exact training the company's employees need," Atake says. "Classes range from high-level technical skills to Word or PowerPoint."

Employers in Montgomery County can call Rita Atake at 215-619-7313 or e-mail her at ratake@mc3.edu.

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school for fun

A side of fun to go with that education

▶ Learn the basics of belly dancing at Bucks County Community College.

Some people take classes to further their careers, whether it's learning new skills or fulfilling professional continuing education requirements.

Others like to have a little fun or express their artistic side. Here are a few interesting classes offered around the region.

JUDY WEIGHTMAN
letters@metro.us

Bucks County Community College

www.bucks.edu
- Belly Dancing
- Brilliant Frugal Living
- Design and Decor Mix
- Google Apps
- Investigating the Paranormal
- iPod Tips and Tricks
- Kitchen Design
- Nurturing the Spirit

Montgomery County Community College

www.mc3.edu
- Attract Birds to Your Garden
- Birding for All Levels
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- Write Funny (memoirs, sketches, stand-up)

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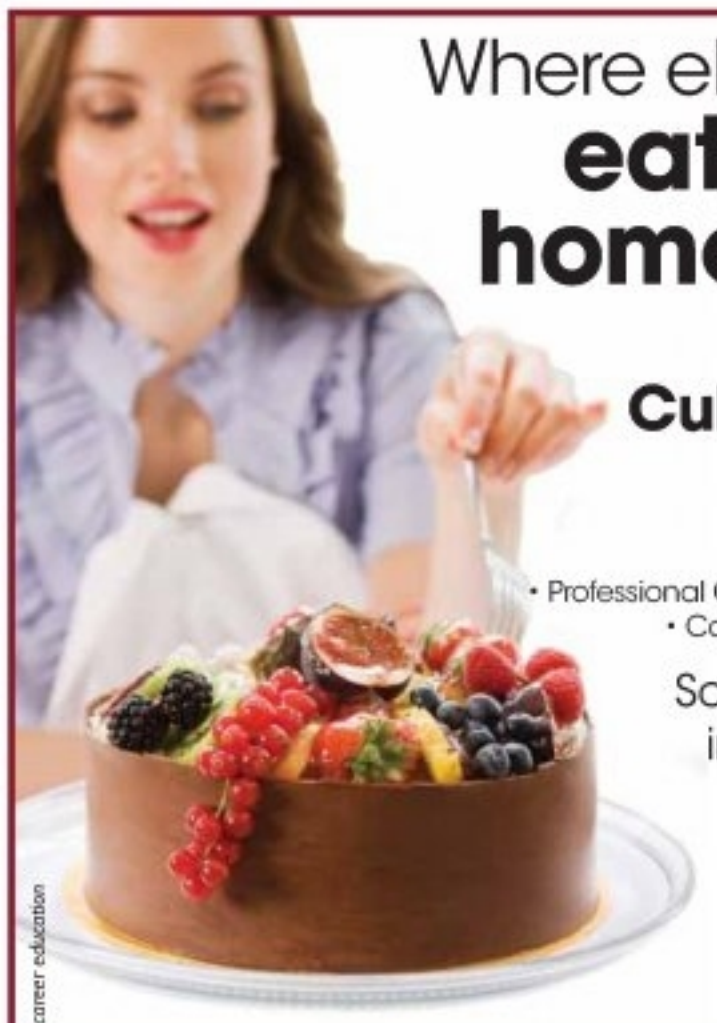

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- Intro. to Psychic Development
- Stand-Up Comedy Workshop
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- Swing/Jitterbug Dancing

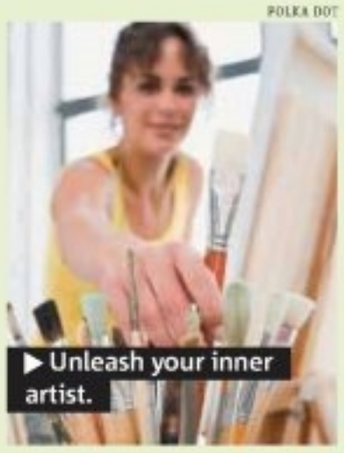
Get schooled

More options around Philly

The Fleisher Art Memorial in South Philly (719 Catharine Street) offers low-price fine arts instruction in media like painting, drawing, sculpture, printmaking, photography and ceramics. They have classes for adults, teens and children. Visit them online at **www.fleisher.org**.

In addition to their programs for children and teens, **Settlement Music School** offers affordable lessons to adults. There are classes in playing most instruments, as well as music theory and composition. The original site is in South Philadelphia, and there are sites in Germantown, Northeast Philadelphia, West Philadelphia, Willow Grove and Camden. Visit them online at **www.smsmusic.org**.

Residents of northwest Philadelphia already know about **Mount Airy Learning Tree** (www.mtairylearningtree.org), which is now in its 30th year. MALT offers classes fall through spring at locations scattered around Mt. Airy, Chestnut Hill and Germantown. In addition to multi-session classes, they offer numerous one- and two-session workshops for adults, teens and children.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Letters

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We must place fair blame

RE: "OBAMA BEING JUDGED UNFAIRLY": Finally someone understands what Obama has accomplished since he came into office. The Republicans accuse him for job loss? Who was it who lost 700,000? That's right, George W. Remember him? The one who put us in war costing billions of dollars.
VIRGINIA BENNETT, VIA E-MAIL

If only veggies tasted better

RE: "A CALL TO BAN FOIE GRAS": If reader Rosa can find me a vegetarian substitute for foie gras, then good for her. Until then, keep shoving that tube down those ducks' throats, because it is absolutely delicious!
MARK CARRIERI, PHILADELPHIA

Military not the culprit

RE: "TEN YEARS HAVE PASSED IN VAIN": Jeff, the 9/11 attacks were not caused by a military failure; it was an intelligence failure. Blame the CIA and FBI, but not military.
ROB PREMAZA, VIA E-MAIL

How can you possibly blame the military for the tragedy that occurred on 9/11?! Were we supposed to kill everyone who ever even threatened us (verbally, rhetorically, you name it) before they could act on it so that attacks would never occur. Sound familiar? Those are steps toward totalitarianism.
ANDY HALL, VIA E-MAIL

Dems: Put your money to work

For all those Democrats and the president who want to raise taxes on the wealthier among us — just write out your check and send it to the federal government to pay down the debt. Including but not limited to: Mr & Mrs. Obama; Pelosi; Reid; Geitner; any Kennedy; the Hollywood elite; Whoopie Goldberg and her pals. Let's see those checks come pouring in! Put your money where your mouth is! **JOAN BACHMAN, VIA E-MAIL**

Time to throw down, fellas

RE: "CASE IN POINT: REVOLUTION": So Mr. Flores believes "the very fabric of being American is being shredded" because a handful of our states allow gay marriage. And this is cause for a revolution? The economy, unemployment, war — these apparently don't concern him. But if two people who love each other want to marry ... revolution! **MIKE CAVALLONE, VIA E-MAIL**

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**
Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Although you have ample smarts upon which to draw, you could be indifferent to what your common sense is telling you and, instead of using it productively, squander your brain's input.
♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** If you're putting a social gathering together, select friends who get along with one another. Even one misfit could spoil the enjoyment for everybody else.
♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Placing faith in your talents and capabilities will help make your lot in life a heck of a lot easier regardless of what you do. Conversely, if you don't think you're hot, you won't be.
♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Regardless of how good your intentions are, you must still be extremely careful about how you handle your close friends. One or two could still read something that you don't mean.
♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** Be careful not to make it look like you're gratifying your personal ambitions by using your friends to get back at someone you dislike.
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** You should make concessions instead of causing complications. If you fail to yield to those with whom you're involved, they aren't apt to comply.
♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** If you're taking over a situation that another was handling poorly, do things in a manner that doesn't make it look like his or her mistakes are yours.
♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** You might find out that you haven't been on as firm a footing in your financial affairs as you thought you were. Unless you take steps to correct it now, things could get worse.
♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Even if most people you encounter seem to be bending over backward to assist you, one person in particular won't fit into this classification. She or he could be trying to block your path.
♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** If you find yourself involved with people against whom you hold an old grudge, try to forgive and forget. You're only hurting yourself by keeping the memory alive.
♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Know when to turn off the input of others regarding a money matter. You have a knack for finances, so don't let the negativity of others cause you to go against your conclusions.
♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you are indifferent to your own resourcefulness, achieving your goals may be difficult. Impressive attainment isn't likely to happen by ignoring your smarts. **BERNICE BEDE OSOL**

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Across
1 Door-frame part
5 Stomp or clump
10 Fleece
14 Indigo dye
15 Better trained
16 Dear, in Venice
17 Pita sandwich
18 Delicate fern
20 Athletic pursuit
22 Mad rush
23 Saunters along
25 Timber
26 Ness' quarry
27 Gas-station freebie
28 Viking name
32 Bit of gossip
33 Cubicle fillers
35 Kind of ranch
36 "Sister Act" role
37 Engage in rivalry
38 About half of us
39 Work gang
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44 Adventurer, often
45 Keats opus
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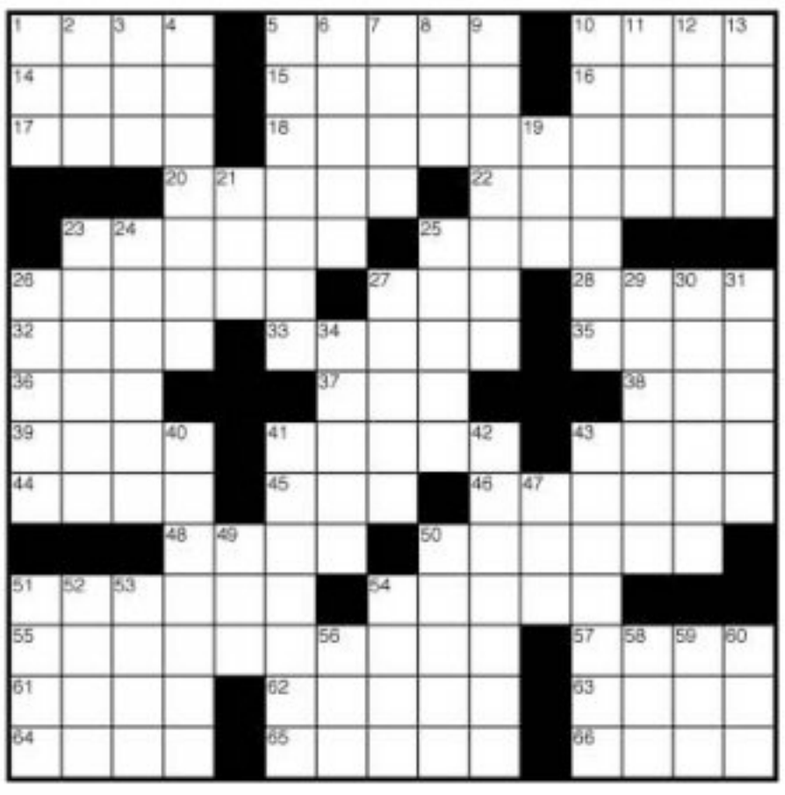
48 Lacoste of tennis
50 Horse
51 Takes turns
54 Destroy a document
55 Energy of the future? (2 wds.)
57 A Karamazov
61 Eurasian range
62 Vicar's residence
63 Rake tooth
64 Withhold
65 Crept
66 One, to Helmut

Down
1 Rip
2 Even one
3 Cosmonaut's station
4 Flourish
5 Cream-colored dog
6 Aspen apparatus
7 Dismounted
8 Sz. option
9 Would rather
10 Plotted
11 "Slither" actor
12 Nev. neighbor
13 "Quite contrary" lass
19 DC gun lobby
21 Permanent marker
23 Like some bonds
24 Kitchen gadget
25 Cycled
26 Tighten a saddle
27 Put __ (save)
29 Ballroom numbers
30 Form a thought
31 Mombasa's land
34 Steer clear of
40 Sophisticated
41 Use up
42 Ached for
43 Well-read
47 Deli loaf
49 Brownie
50 Decided
51 Wind-driven mist
52 Sponge feature
53 High spirits
54 What divas do
56 Like some excuses
58 Sundial numeral
59 Abby's sister
60 Born as



		4		6	1	5		
			9		5		6	1
								3
4				2				6
8		2	5		3	1		4
5				8				9
7								
3	5		2		8			
		8	4	7		6		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

6	5				8			7
8	7	3				1		
	4					6	5	
		4		2	9			
			3		1			
			5	8		9		
	2	5					1	
		1				4	7	3
4			1				2	6

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to yesterday's crossword

■	I	T	S	■	O	W	N	E	D	■	S	L	A	B
F	O	R	A	■	C	H	I	L	I	■	T	O	D	O
A	T	O	M	■	T	A	L	K	S	■	R	A	I	D
N	A	T	U	R	A	L	■	S	T	R	A	N	G	E
■	■	■	R	O	V	E	S	■	R	E	U	S	E	D
F	A	C	A	D	E	■	K	E	E	P	S	■	■	■
O	L	L	I	E	■	P	I	N	S	■	S	P	I	N
Y	O	U	■	O	B	E	L	I	S	K	■	I	C	E
T	U	B	A	■	L	A	I	D	■	E	P	C	O	T
■	■	■	S	H	E	L	F	■	G	L	E	A	N	S
E	S	C	H	E	W	■	T	I	L	L	S	■	■	■
E	T	H	A	N	O	L	■	D	A	Y	T	I	M	E
R	O	O	M	■	V	I	O	L	S	■	E	N	D	S
I	N	R	E	■	E	R	N	E	S	■	R	I	S	E
E	Y	E	D	■	R	E	A	D	Y	■	S	T	E	■

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

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Opinion

ANGELO CATALDI
THE VOICE OF THE PHILLY SPORTS FAN

MY FIRST STATE OF THE EAGLES ADDRESS

Now that the NFL lockout is finally ending, it's time for the Eagles to show that the past five empty months haven't been in vain. It's time for the Eagles to make some changes, not just on the roster but in the way they do business.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send submissions to letters@metro.us.

As someone who speaks daily to the customers who buy Eagles tickets, jerseys, hats, bumper stickers, etc., I offer some (unsolicited) advice on how the Eagles can make themselves more popular with the people who matter the most, the fans:

▶ **Andy Reid needs to stop speaking like a trained parrot**, chirping "we've got to do a better job" after every bad loss. He also needs to figure out how to use timeouts and challenges, and he needs to say what he actually feels once in a while.

▶ **Joe Banner needs to avoid microphones and cameras at all costs.** The president is the brains of the organization, but the fans can't stand the sight or sound of him. His absurd recent comparison of the Eagles to the Steelers should mark his final public appearance.

▶ **Jeffrey Lurie needs to cancel his state of the team address.** Once a year, the billionaire owner emerges from his mansion to deliver a stream of mindless platitudes that have become an annual insult to our intelligence. Lurie has no clue about football. We get it. Stop reminding us.

▶ **Michael Vick needs to do his social work more quietly now.** We don't need a TV clip every week of his latest speech to kids. What we need is the kind of football he played the first half of last season. People are tired of the Vick reform movement. They want to watch him play well.

▶ **DeSean Jackson needs to throw away all computers, cell phones and iPads.** His tweeting has become an embarrassment. Jackson is a spectacular athlete. He is not a spectacular commentator on world events, as his recent gay slur proved. Log off.

Quoted

We don't need a TV clip every week of Mike Vick's latest speech to kids.

▶ **Winston Justice needs to worry less about his newspaper column and more about protecting Vick.** Justice is a very intelligent player, maybe the most articulate Eagle. Unfortunately, he hasn't learned yet how to block the top pass rushers. It's now or never for him.

I'm not done. Asante Samuel needs to learn how to tackle. LeSean McCoy needs to honor his commitments off the field. Jeremy Maclin needs to gain a few pounds. Kevin Kolb needs a new suitcase. And Albert Haynesworth — if he joins the team — needs a bodyguard to keep him out of fights, an accountant to pay his fines and a trainer to help him lose weight.

Hey, I realize the Eagles aren't going to do all of these things — or any of them. But they should. After all, the Eagles need to do a better job, don't they?

*– **Angelo Cataldi** is host of 610 WIP's Morning Show, which airs weekdays 5:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.*

Listen up: The senior adviser is talking

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▶ Gillick

As the debate rages over what the Phillies should do at the trade deadline, I would like to defer to a man whose expertise is undeniable. He is Pat Gillick, former GM and mentor to Ruben Amaro.

In an interview with the website MLB Trade Rumors, Gillick said it's "very important" that the Phils add a right-handed bat. Let me repeat that for the slow readers. It is **VERY IMPORTANT** that Amaro add a bat to replace the power and consistency lost when Jayson Werth left for Washington.

Amaro has said repeatedly that no significant moves are planned, that there is no money left in the budget, blah, blah, blah. The implication is, with pitching this good — the best record in baseball — who needs a bat?

The Phillies do. Very badly.

Don't believe for a second that John Mayberry's recent surge has any playoff implications. Does anyone want to see Mayberry face Tim Lincecum with the season on the line?

But my opinion doesn't matter. When Gillick says it is **VERY IMPORTANT** to add a righty bat, who can argue? Gillick, who will be inducted into the Hall of Fame on Sunday, is listed as a senior adviser to the Phillies. If they're smart, they'll take his advice.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Vick has teamed up with the Humane Society.

Are the stars out?

Now that record-low ratings for the All-Star Game are official, it's time for all four sports to deal with the reality of these annual showcases. They stink. They should all be cancelled.

No matter what silly new wrinkles the leagues add to stir interest, the public yawns. Home-field advantage in the World Series? Boring. Choosing up sides in the NHL event? Ho hum. Moving the Pro Bowl to the week before the Super Bowl? No thanks. As for the NBA All-Star Game, do they still have one?

The concept of gathering the best players together made sense 50 years ago, when the athletes actually had pride in their leagues. Now, hot cribs and cool rides are far more important. Last week, 16 players named to the baseball squads didn't participate. Even Derek Jeter, the poster boy for proper sports behavior, blew off the event.

Remember when Pete Rose bowled over Ray Fosse to win an All-Star game? That was 41 years ago. Johnny Callison won an All-Star game with a big home run — 47 years ago. Can you name the most recent big moment? Neither can I.

The only thing keeping these vestiges of another era alive is the nostalgia of sad old coots like Bud Selig, who refuse to acknowledge what the public is saying with the clicker. End the all-star games. They stink.

Idle thoughts from Cataldi ...

1 Country of second chances. Sixers GM Ed Stefanski is being wooed for jobs in Toronto and New York. The same man who totally botched his big chance here — the genius who hired the worst coach in team history, Eddie Jordan — is a hot commodity in the NBA again. What a country.

2 No hustle or flow. Wouldn't it be nice to know why Charlie Manuel benched Jimmy Rollins in the seventh inning of Saturday's loss. First the manager mentioned "leg tightness," but Rollins denied any injury. It couldn't be because Rollins didn't hustle on a double-play ball, could it? No, not Jimmy.

3 That's a Giant mistake. Bruce Bochy should be placed on a skewer and barbecued for the way he deployed his pitchers in the All-Star Game. The Giants skipper used 10 of the 12 pitchers on the roster, saving his own guys — Tim Lincecum and Ryan Vogelsong — for the regular season. See you in October, pal.

In the news

End in sight?
The NFL lockout could end as soon as Wednesday, if Internet reports are to be trusted.

Owners and players are open to rolling the remaining issues — an antitrust lawsuit and TV damages — into a global settlement, according to ESPN.

The NFL sent a memo to all 32 teams yesterday and instructed key executives to attend Thursday's owners meeting in Atlanta.

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Tour leader believes he has 'zero' chance

With a week left in the Tour de France, only one person is convinced Thomas Voeckler can't win the race in Paris.

Voeckler himself.

The unlikely yellow jersey-holder, who stayed with the Tour's expected contenders through the Pyrenees climbs, is being touted as a possible champion by his rivals.

But Voeckler's unsure.

"It's flattering, but I don't believe it for a second," he said. "I'm going to fight for sure, but I can't be dishonest: I believe I have zero chance to win the Tour de France."

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▶ Voeckler

Adding more pressure for the 32-year-old is the fact that he's aiming to become the first French rider to win the Tour in 26 years. In 2004, Voeckler led for 10 days before losing the yellow jersey to Lance Armstrong in the rugged Alpine mountain stages.

Yesterday was the second and final rest day of this year's race. Four Alpine mountain stages begin today, starting with a 101-mile ride in the foothills. The Tour ends on July 24 in Paris.

METRO/REUTERS

Lance's lawyers blame leaks

Lance Armstrong's attorneys are blaming illegal government leaks for disgracing the cyclist's reputation.

They are asking the government to explain why it shouldn't be held in contempt, according to The Associated Press, and may ask journalists to reveal their sources.

Armstrong, a seven-time Tour de France winner, is accused of using performance-enhancing drugs.

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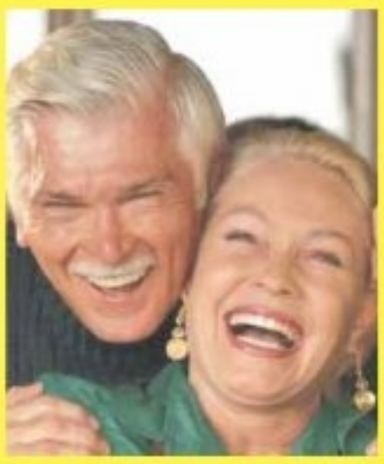

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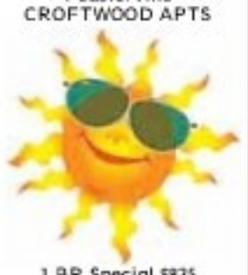

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Union goalkeeper earns All-Star nod

Mondragon to compete against ManU Third-best with 0.84 GAA, seven shutouts Game set for July 27

Add another feather to the captain's cap.

Union goalkeeper and team captain Faryd Mondragon was selected to play in the MLS All-Star Game. The midseason showcase will be broadcast live (ESPN2, 8:30 p.m.) on July 27 at New York's Red Bull Arena.

Mondragon is among 22 All-Stars who will compete against English Premier League club Manchester United. The 40-year-old Colombian keeper has been a stabilizing force in net this season, posting a 0.84 goals-against average and seven shutouts, both are third-best in MLS.

This is Mondragon's first MLS All-Star selection and second in Union franchise history. Sebastien Le Toux was the first, representing the club last year in Houston. METRO

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Mondragon is among 22 MLS All-Stars.

Vick lending support to dogfighting bill

Michael Vick is heading to Capitol Hill.

Unlike Roger Clemens' recent visit, however, the Eagles quarterback is going to D.C. on a positive note. Vick will announce his support for H.R. 2492, a bill that will penalize criminals who finance and bring children to dogfights and cockfights. He'll be joined at a press conference by Ohio Democratic Congresswoman Betty Sutton and Wayne Pacelle, president and CEO of the Humane Society of the United States.

Vick, of course, has been working with the HSUS since his release from federal prison in 2009. The bill was first introduced in Congress by Sutton and Pennsylvania Republican Tom Marino. METRO

▶ Vick

Tweet tweet

Vick made the following comments yesterday on his official Twitter page:

@MikeVick
What's up twitter fam? Been busy but I am back

@MikeVick
Sound like we gonna be back to work so soon!!!

Los Manuales de Compensación a los Trabajadores y de Seguro Social por Incapacidad están disponibles en Español.

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If you have Asthma that is triggered by allergies you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study. This study is testing a new investigational drug for Allergic Asthma. You may be able to participate if you are:

- 18-65 years of age
- Diagnosed with Asthma
- Not taking any asthma medicines other than a rescue inhaler
- Able to swallow capsules
- A non-smoker or ex-smoker for more than a year

This study requires 8 visits to our center city Philadelphia office over a 16 week period. Eligible subjects will receive compensation for documented travel expenses and additional payments for visits completed beginning with visit 3. Call to see if you are eligible to screen for this study.

Asthma Allergy & Pulmonary Associates

215-923-7685

Do you or does someone you know suffer from Schizophrenia?

Please call if:

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For more information, please contact Vincent Davis or Ada Wilson, clinical trial recruiters, at

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- Have experienced constipation while taking opioids

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+++ Research Study for Bipolar Depression +++

BIPOLAR MEDICATION

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Participants must be 18-65 years old and diagnosed with bipolar disorder. *Health insurance is not required.*

The study drug may be provided at no cost.
Compensation available up to $500 for time and travel.

Specific compensation amounts will vary by research site. The research staff will be able to share specific amounts with you.

Call: 866-216-2419
Or visit: www.BipolarDepressionStudy.com

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the caribbean

The color of Curacao

Perhaps the least-known of the ABC islands of the Caribbean — Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao — Curacao is becoming the new hot spot of the West Indies

Only 40 miles off the coast of Venezuela, Curacao offers one of the most diverse populations on earth — a mix of more than 50 nationalities, including Dutch, West Indian, French and African. It truly has something for everyone.

Why go now: Curacao is now easier to get to than ever, with Continental Airlines offering new direct flights between Newark and Curacao that are fewer than five hours. And Curacao is still a relatively undiscovered gem of the Caribbean, with a sophisticated European vibe, thanks to the strong Dutch influence.

www.metro.us
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What to do: There's a great mix of culture and relaxation in Curacao. The vibrant capital of Willemstad, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site, has mind-blowing architecture, museums and shopping. Those looking for more of an escape can choose from 35 quiet and pristine beaches, all a short drive from wherever you're staying.

How to spend a day: Start with a tour of downtown Willemstad to see the Dutch-influenced government buildings and one of the oldest synagogues in the world. Shop at the floating Venezuelan market and grab lunch at Marshe Bieuw, the open-air market where housewives serve authentic Antillean meals. Stop by Dinah Veeris' healing herb garden, and then head to the beaches on the northernmost coast to relax before hitting L'Aldea Brazilian Steakhouse for dinner.

SERENA JONES
letters@metro.us

Travel to Curacao during the summer and fall months to avoid the December and January prices and crowds.

Travel costs

Continental Airlines Vacations offers deals on hotel and airfare packages often. Check Covacations.com for specials; recent deals include five-night stays at luxury hotels for as little as $599, including airfare.

Get jazzed!

The second annual **Curacao North Sea Jazz Festival (www.curacaonorthseajazz.com)** will be held Sept. 2-3, featuring Sting, Stevie Wonder, Earth Wind & Fire and Dionne Warwick. Local talent will perform in the week leading up to the festival at various locales around the island, including the popular party spot, Mambo Beach.

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Right now, doctors at Paddington Research in Philadelphia are taking part in a medical research study of an investigational medication for nail fungus that may help. This medication is clear and applied directly to the nail. If you join, you will receive the nail medication and all study-related care at no cost. You will also be compensated for your time.

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